MAHARASHTRA

Budget: During 1971-72, a sum of Rs. 3,18,500 was spent out of a budget provision of Rs. 3,29,000 on the non-plan side. For 1972-73 a provision of Rs. 3,55,000 has been made in the budget. There is no budget provision on the plan side.

Building: The work of construction of the new building for State Archives was not started. However, the plan of the building and estimated expenditure of Rs. 20,02,542 for the said work have already been sanctioned.

Accession of Records: 3,616 files of Political and Services Department and Home, Education, Health and Revenue Departments etc. upto 1967 of the Secretariat, 338 maps and 294 files from the Nasik Collectorate and 26 confidential files from the office of the Inspector General of Prisons, Maharashtra State, Poona were acquired.

The private papers of Jayaram Swami Nath, Vadagaon (17th to 19th century); Deshmukh Mahu Collection (17th to 18th century); Shirke Ghatge Collection (from the last quarter of 18th century to the 19th century) and Adgaonkar Deshpande Collection (17th to 19th century) were acquired. A Microfilm copy of records of the Gangakhed Daftar Collection was also acquired from Andhra Pradesh State Archives, Hyderabad.

Arrangement of Records: 3,616 files of Secretariat records acquired during the period were arranged.

Appraisal of Records: All series received in this office have been retained as permanent records.

Research and Reference: During this year 32 research scholars were given access to records in Bombay Archives. Out of them 8 were from abroad. 26 scholars also availed themselves of research facilities at Poona Archives. The Department issued 1,247 records (both manuscripts and printed) against 493 requisitions. 2,792 files from Sachivalaya Record Rooms were supplied to various Departments against 1,501 requisitions. 310 applications for certified copies of the extracts from Government Gazettes were received and attended to. 1,757 private parties also availed of the research facilities at the Bombay Archives. 25 search cases received from the various Secretariat Departments were attended to.

Reference Media: In Bombay Archives the compilation of a revised Catalogue of 'Public Department Diaries' (1720-1820) was in progress and a Catalogue of Holkar Records in Modi script is under preparation. 18 Rumals containing 35,152 documents were catalogued. In the Peshwa Daftar (Alienation Office, Poona) the preparation of Catalogue of the papers in 'Chitnishi' Section was in progress. 31 Rumals containing about 10,000 documents

were indexed. Press copy of the Catalogue of 'Papers selected for further research' was being finalised. In Kolhapur Record Office a Catalogue of 67 Rumals of Pant Amatya Bavda Daftar had been completed and press copy of the Catalogue of 'Chitnishi' Section was being finalised. About 10,000 documents from Rajarshi Shahu Chhatrapati Daftar Section were sorted year-wise. The old reference materials available in manuscript forms in Bombay Archives were being typed, because of their deteriorating condition.

Publication Programme:

1. The following publications were brought out during the year:

(i) Maharashtra Archives Bulletin No. 8 containing the original correspondence relating to Baiza Bai Sindhia and a Deccan Bund; Bayabai Apte, the daughter of Peshwa Bajirao II and the step-brother of Tatya Tope; (ii) Selections from the Kolhapur Records, Vol.I, Modi Papers (1692-1828); (iii) Descriptive Catalogue of Papers in Shahu Daftar, Vol.II (Section of the Peshwa Daftar, Rumal nos.31 to 56); (iv) Descriptive Catalogue of Papers in Nivdi (Chitnishi) Section in Kolhapur Record Office (Rumal nos.1 to 154); and (v) Report of the Committee for Preservation and Indexing of Public Records in Maharashtra State.

2. The following publications were in the Press:

(i) Maharashtra Archives Bulletin No. 9 containing original correspondence regarding the arrests of persons suspected to be Nanasaheb of 1857 fame; (ii) Descriptive Catalogue of Parasnishi Section (containing 5,419 documents) from Kolhapur Record Office; and (iii) Ibrahim-Nama containing materials regarding Ibrahim Adil Shah II, of Bijapur (edited by Shri D.V. Chauhan).

3. The following publications were in hand: -

(i) The next issue of the "Maharashtra Archives Bulletin", (ii) Itinararies of the Peshwas and their Sardars; (iii) Selection from Mhaswad Mane Papers; (iv) Warden's Selections and (v) the revision of the 'Hand Book of the Bombay Government Records'.

4. The English translation of 'Tarikh-i-Dilkasha' was brought out as 'Dr. Jadunath Sarkar Birth Centenary Commemoration Volume'. (The Persian manuscript 'Tarikh-i-Dilkasha' is the memoir written by Bhimsen Saksena, an officer in the service of Aurangzeb, narrating campaigns of Aurangzeb, in the Deccan during 1658-1707).

5. Selections from the Peshwa Daftar (New Series), Volume I (Expansion of Maratha Power - 1707-1761) and Volume III (Revival of Maratha Power) are proposed to be reprinted.

Preservation of Records: In Bombay Archives, M/s Pestoken Industries, Private Ltd., Bombay, were entrusted with the work of treatment of the Muniment Rooms of the Bombay Archives with special chemicals to check white ants infestation, etc. The Muniment Rooms of ground and first floors were accordingly treated twice in a month. 18,788 volumes were fumigated and special dusting of 71,989 volumes was completed. In Poona Archives, the records affected by insects were fumigated and other precautionary measures taken to secure the records against insect or any other damage. In Kolhapur Record Office, 2,742 Rumals were dusted. 89 Rumals were treated with thymol in the Fumigation Chambers. Card boards of 72 Rumals and old cloth of 64 Rumals were changed. In Sachivalaya Record Rooms, 3,12,236 files were dusted and 28,907 files were fumigated.

Repair and Rehabilitation: (i) Bombay Archives - Flattening of records - 1,95,750 sheets; repairing with tissue paper - 1,433 sheets; repairing with chiffon sheets and guarding - 1,332 sheets; binding - 1,621 books and guarding - 600 books. (ii) Poona Archives - Repairing with tissue paper - 61,334 papers; (ii) binding etc. - 259 files and 320 books. (iii) Kolhapur Record Office - Repairing with tissue paper - 8,117 documents and 600 pages from the old files; binding - 28 files and 24 books.

Library: 943 books and publications were acquired.

Other Important Activities: A permanent exhibition of selected documents, from the English, Modi and Persian collections in the custody of this Department and photos showing the process of preservation, repairs and binding of records was arranged, which evinced much interest particularly of the delegates who participated in the 'Seminar on Maratha History' organised by the Bombay University in November, 1971. 32 selected documents from private sources were also sent for exhibition held at Trivandrum in October 1971 during the 41st Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission.